SECOND COMING REVELATIONS

HELLBOUND™

MARVEL LIMITED SERIES
3 of 3

YOST
TOLIBAO
RANEY

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PREVIOUSLY...

With the members of their race dying out and no new mutants being born, mutantkind was on the brink of extinction. In need of a miracle, the X-Men were elated when one came in the form of Hope—a newborn mutant who held the promise of repopulation. Under attack by those who would see mutantkind extinguished, the X-Men sent the infant into the future with Cable, to be raised under his protection and one day return to the present.

Today is that day. Cable and Hope have returned. But the X-Men were not the only ones awaiting them: Bastion has rallied anti-mutant forces to kill Hope and seal mutantkind's fate. And seeking to cripple the X-Men's efforts to recover Hope, Bastion's troops ambush their teleporter, Magik, and send her into the alternate dimension of Limbo.

Now, Cannonball has assembled a small team of X-Men to enter Limbo and retrieve Magik. But no sooner have they arrived than they find themselves in over their heads: An endless horde of demons has descended upon them. Gambit—under the dark influence of Limbo—has become possessed by the Death entity that shares his being and is now forcibly corrupting his teammates. And the archdemon N'Astirh, who has his own plans for the disenfranchised mutants, starts by making a tempting offer to young X-Man Pixie: he will restore her soul if she harvests and delivers to him Magik's soulsword!

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LIMBO. NOW.

NYEAARGHHH!!

AAAHHHH... HNNN...HNNN...

POMOGEETE MNE...POZHALISTA... POMOGEETE...

CHK!

NYAAAAAAAAAHHH!

HUH... HNN...

...PIOTR?

RASPUTIN.

WE'VE COME TO END YOUR SUFFERING.

FOREVER.

NO...

THE LAVA FIELDS.

WE DESERVE THIS.

I MEAN SERIOUSLY... THE X-MEN HAVE BEEN DEALING WITH THIS NIGHTMARE FOREVER, BUT THEY NEVER DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

ANOLE...

WILL YOU GIVE IT A REST, VICTOR?

EVERYTHING YOU PEOPLE DO COMES BACK TO HAUNT YOU, BUT THIS... YOU JUST LET MAGIK WALK AROUND MAKING GATEWAYS TO HELL. THAT'S YOUR TRANSPORTATION, SAM...GATEWAYS TO HELL.

WE'VE GOT BIGGER PROBLEMS RIGHT NOW.

LIMBO...THIS PLACE, IT CORRUPTS PEOPLE. WE'VE SEEN IT BEFORE.

ARE YOU SURE? WHY ISN'T IT HAPPENING TO US, THEN?

REMY!! THIS ISN'T YOU! YOU HAVE TO FIGHT IT!!

AH, SAMUEL. YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW *ME* THIS IS.

LOOK AT YOU, PLAYING LEADER. YOU CAN'T LEAD THOSE WHO ARE STRONGER THAN YOU INTO HELL AND NOT EXPECT BAD THINGS TO HAPPEN. AND BAD THINGS *ARE* ABOUT TO HAPPEN, SAM.

I HEAR YOUNG ANOLE HERE GROWS NEW LIMBS WHEN HE LOSES ONE. THAT THEY COME BACK *STRONGER.*

I THINK I WANT TO SEE THAT.

WHAT?!

THEY'RE MOVING. STAY BEHIND ME.

BEHIND YOU?! THEY'RE ALL AROUND US!

THIS DISGUSTING LITTLE CREATURE STRUCK ME ONCE. I GO FIRST. I THINK I'LL TAKE THE *ARMS.*

DON'T BE GREEDY.

SAM!

GRAB ON TO ME. *NOW.*

WHOOOSH!

ZARK!

ZARK!

WAAAAAHHHH!

THAT'S DISAPPOINTING.

IT DOESN'T MATTER. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT OF HERE...

"...AND I KNOW WHERE SHE IS."

THIS MAGIC IMPRISONING RASPUTIN, IT REEKS OF SCIENCE. I CANNOT BREAK IT. AND HER OWN SPELLS PREVENT ME FROM ACTING AGAINST HER.

BUT YOU, YOU ARE OF BOTH WORLDS. NOTHING COULD STOP YOU.

THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED...YOUR SOUL BACK. AND YOU CAN HAVE IT. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS TAKE THE SOULSWORD FROM RASPUTIN AND GIVE IT TO ME.

THAT'S...*HNN*... THAT'S RIGHT, LITTLE PIXIE. AND ALL YOU HAVE TO DO TO TAKE MY SWORD IS ***KILL ME.*** BUT YOU KNEW THAT, DIDN'T YOU?

LOOK AT YOU...N'ASTIRH DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO ***TRY,*** DID HE?

POOR INNOCENT MEGAN. FINALLY STANDING UP TO HER BIG BAD MONSTER.

WHAT I DID TO YOU WAS ***NOTHING.*** YOU THINK YOU KNOW PAIN...YOU DON'T KNOW ***ANYTHING.***

DO IT, MEGAN. DO IT BEFORE I TAKE THE REST OF YOUR SOUL! BEFORE I FEED ON ALL YOUR SPOILED LITTLE FRIENDS!

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! DO IT!!

DO IT!!

NYEARGHH!!

CHOK!

HURR... HRRAA!!

YOU...YOU WOULD FIGHT FOR HER? SHE IS AS MUCH A DEMON AS I...AFTER EVERYTHING SHE DID TO YOU...

...YOU WOULD FIGHT FOR HER?!

YEAH. THAT'S WHAT X-MEN DO.

IS THAT WHAT YOU ARE, FAERIE? A HERO?

GOOD. THEN WHEN I TEAR OUT WHAT REMAINS OF YOUR *SOUL*, I'LL USE THAT TO KILL RASPUTIN.

THEN I'LL RESURRECT YOU SO YOU CAN SUFFER FOR ALL--

WHAM!!

FWOOSH!!

HNN!!

NYEARRRGH!!

ZARK!!

OHTHANK YOUGODOHTHANK YOUGOD...

THE X-MEN ARE HERE... WE'RE GOING TO BE--

HNN... NNNO... PIXIE...

RUN.

OW.

THUD

S'YM?! WHO DARES--?!

I DO.

YOU ARE DEAD, MUTANT. DO YOU HEAR ME? AND THEN I WILL FEAST ON YOUR CORPSE!!

BRING HIM TO ME, MY CHILDREN!! TEAR THESE 'X-MEN' APART!

DON'T THINK SO, DIABLE.

...HOLY CRAP.

HOLY CRAP! WHAT DO I DO!?! WHAT HAPPENED TO GAMBIT AND JEAN-PAUL AND ALI?!

PIXIE...YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME...THAT'S NOT GAMBIT...

THIS PLACE, IT'S MINE NOW. YOUR DEMONS, THEY BELONG TO ME.

THEY BELONG TO *DEATH*...

...JUST LIKE YOU DO.

AAAAAHHH!!!

SKEEEE!!

WILL YOU BE SILENT AND FIGHT, GIRL!?

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! YOU WERE GOING TO EAT MY SOUL!!

THIS CREATURE, THIS DEATH...THE POWER WITHIN HIM, IT IS NOT MUTANT OR MAGIC...IT WILL CONSUME THIS PLACE...IF YOU WANT TO LIVE...

AAAAHHH!!

...YOU HAVE TO FIGHT!! YOU HAVE TO--

NYEARRGH!!

MISTER LEBEAU... MISTER LEBEAU, PLEASE...THIS PLACE, IT'S CHANGING YOU...PLEASE, YOU TAUGHT ME HOW TO THROW KNIVES...AND PICK LOCKS! THIS ISN'T YOU!!

YOU THINK TO TAKE POSSESSION OF THIS PLACE? THE ELDER GODS WILL RETURN, AND YOU WILL BURN, PRETENDER. YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT DEATH IS?!

I DO. LET ME SHOW YOU.

WHAM!!

NOW, YOU HAVE A CHOICE, CHERE. YOU CAN DIE, LIKE THIS DEMON IS GOING TO...

...OR I CAN MAKE YOU STRONG. I CAN MAKE YOU INTO WHAT YOU WERE MEANT TO BE. I CAN MAKE YOU JUST LIKE ILLYANA.

NO...I'M NOT LIKE HER...

SURE YOU ARE. YOU JUST NEED A PUSH. I CAN DO THAT, MEGAN. I CAN MAKE YOU A DARKCHILD, JUST LIKE HER...

PLEASE... NO...

KNOW WHAT? I TAKE IT BACK. YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE. I WANT--EH?

I KNOW THIS IS HARD FOR YOU, GAMBIT...

...BUT STEP AWAY FROM THE GIRL.

SAM...

THIS A JOKE, PROTÉGÉ? YOU'RE NOTHING!

YOU'RE NOT EVEN WORTH CORRUPTING!

THEN SHOW ME WHAT YOU'VE GOT, CAJUN.

AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS ARROGANT.

KILL HIM.

MY PLEASURE.

FWOOSH!

SHRACK!!

THAT IT? BECAUSE I'M ON A SCHEDULE HERE.

JEAN-PAUL... BRING ME THIS HAYSEED'S TONGUE.

DONE.

HURKK!

WHAM!!

WOW.

DAZZLER... KILL THE PIXIE. I'LL DEAL WITH CANNONBALL.

DAZZLER, PLEASE...WE'RE FRIENDS, REMEMBER?

YOU CAME AND VISITED ME WHEN I GOT HURT, I'M A FAN, REMEMBER? I SAW YOUR MOVIE, I WENT TO YOUR CONCERTS...

THAT'S SO SWEET.

I'LL GIVE YOU ONE LAST PERFORMANCE, THEN, FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE.

UHNN!!

SHOOM!

NOBODY'S DYING TODAY.

VICTOR!!!

MEGAN! YOU HAVE TO FREE MAGIK! CANNONBALL AND I WILL HOLD THESE THINGS OFF!!

GO!

SHOOM!

HTT!

SNAP OUT OF IT, REMY!

I BROUGHT YOU HERE TO KEEP US FOCUSED! YOU'RE MAKING ME LOOK BAD IN FRONT OF THE STUDENTS!

YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE YOU CAN FIGHT ME, HICK? ON MY WORST DAY, YOU DON'T HOLD A CANDLE TO ME!

WHUP!!

IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK, LEBEAU?

I GUESS YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW ME AT ALL.

HNN!

I WAS FIGHTING SENTINELS WHILE YOU WERE STILL STEALING PAINTINGS.

WHILE YOU WERE UNDER SINISTER'S THUMB, I WAS BEING TRAINED BY ***CABLE***. SO DO I THINK I CAN TAKE YOU?

SHOOM!

HELL YES.

COME ON, COME ON WE HAVE TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE...

PIXIE...YOU CAN'T--

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT, OKAY?! I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU!!

PIXIE. STOP.

YOU CAN END THIS. TAKE IT BACK. USE YOUR DAGGER AND TAKE YOUR SOUL BACK.

WHAT?

DO YOU KNOW WHY I HATE YOU? ALL OF YOU NEW X-MEN? BECAUSE YOU ARE A CONSTANT REMINDER OF WHAT A MONSTER I AM.

YOU SHOW ME EVERY DAY THAT I HAVE BECOME WHAT I HATED... BELASCO.

I'M BEGGING YOU. TAKE YOUR SOUL BACK. TAKE THE SOUL SWORD FROM MY HEART AND END THIS. END *ME*. PLEASE...

MEGAAAAAANNN!!

I...I...

HNN!!

CABLE THOUGHT YOU WERE STRONG ONCE. HE THOUGHT YOU WERE SPECIAL. BUT HE CAST YOU ASIDE, DIDN'T HE? NOW HE'S GOT *HOPE*.

CYCLOPS THINKS YOU'RE A LEADER? YOU JUST LED YOUR TEAM TO DIE.

LIKE I SAID...YOU'RE *NOTHING*.

AAAH!!

TALK ALL YOU WANT, DEMON. BOTTOM LINE? I'M TAKING YOU DOWN.

AND WHEN I GET BACK UP TOP?

UHN!

THINK AH'M GONNA GO ASK ROGUE OUT ON A DATE.

HK!

NOW THAT'S HITTING A MAN WHERE IT HURTS.

I LIKE IT. MAYBE I TAKE YOU AFTER ALL.

WHAT--?!

YOU LOOK LIKE FUN.

NOW GET THE &%$# AWAY FROM MY FRIEND.

GUESS I WAS WRONG ABOUT LITTLE MEGAN. DOESN'T MATTER.

YOU WANT TO PLAY? FINE BY ME, GIRLIE.

LET'S PL--

JRAMOS

NYEAARRGHH!!

AAAAAAAHH!!

OHMIGOD, IS HE ALRIGHT?

DO YOU WANT HIM TO BE?

WAIT...WHY ISN'T HE CHANGING BACK? YOUR SWORD, SHOULDN'T IT CUT THROUGH LIMBO'S INFLUENCE? WHAT'S HAPPENING?

...I DON'T KNOW.

THEY'RE WEAK. KILL THEM ALL. KILL THEM ALL.

NO. YOU CRAWL BACK INSIDE, WHERE YOU CAME FROM. YOU LOST.

YOU'RE WEAK.

THEN HOW COME YOU'RE LOSING?

...SOON.

AUHH... HUH... HUHN...

IT'S OVER.

BACK AS IT WAS. I'LL PUNISH N'ASTIRH AND S'YM LATER.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE, THIS REALM IS MINE AGAIN.

YOU GOT HIT PRETTY HARD BY STRYKER'S PEOPLE. WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU. YOUR BROTHER NEARLY TORE CYCLOPS' HEAD OFF TRYING TO GET DOWN HERE.

YOU OKAY, 'YANA?

...I'M FINE, SAM.

THANKS TO HER.

WHAT?

YOU DON'T THINK I'M WORTH SAVING.

I... THAT'S NOT...

DON'T LIE. IT'S OKAY...I'M NOT. BUT YOU DID IT ANYWAY. I REMEMBER...I REMEMBER THAT'S HOW I USED TO BE. I USED TO BE LIKE YOU.

I REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS LIKE, HAVING A SOUL. WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO SUFFER.

AND I'M SORRY THAT YOU'RE SUFFERING BECAUSE OF ME. I'M SORRY, MEGAN.

IF WE SURVIVE ALL THIS, MAYBE...MAYBE WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER. FIND A WAY TO BE WHOLE.

...OKAY.

YOU KNOCKED ME OUT.

YEAH. YOU KIND OF WENT OFF THE RAILS, JEAN-PAUL.

YOU ACTUALLY ADMITTING I'M A GOOD LEADER?

...I'M IMPRESSED, GUTHRIE. YOU GOT US THROUGH THIS HELL.

I HAVEN'T RULED OUT LUCK.

IT WASN'T YOU...

I KNOW. I'VE GOT SOME EXPERIENCE WITH BEING POSSESSED. IT'S JUST...THIS TIME, SOMETHING...SOMETHING WAS DIFFERENT...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, TEAM, BUT I'M READY TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

WHAT ABOUT TRANCE?

HOPEFULLY SHE'S ON UTOPIA, BACK IN HER BODY.

SIHAL NOVARUM CHINOTH!!

LET'S JUST HOPE THERE'S A UTOPIA TO GO BACK TO.

END.